

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 20, 2019
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
www.lackawannany.gov

Regular session of the Lackawanna City Council met in the Council Chambers, Council President Annette Iafallo presiding. The meeting was preceded by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Council President Annette Iafallo.

Meeting called to order

NB: Meeting being recorded

Roll Call: Council: Present: Ingram, Schultz, Surdyke, Iafallo

Dept. Heads: Present: Law, Public Safety, Comptroller, Public Works, Code Enforcement
Officer Drew Ortega
Excused: Recreation

Approval of Minutes: of regular meeting of May 8, 2019

Moved by Iafallo seconded by Surdyke to adopt minutes of regular meeting of May 8, 2019 as written

Yeas: Ingram, Schultz, Surdyke, Iafallo

Carried 4-0

Departmental Reports:

1. **City Comptroller-** A/P Check Listing #41, dated May 2, 2019
2. **City Comptroller-** A/P Check Listing #42, dated May 9, 2019

Moved by Iafallo seconded by Schultz to receive and file departmental reports one and two

Yeas: Ingram, Schultz, Surdyke, Iafallo

Carried 4-0

Communications from the Mayor:

Mayor's Proposed Operating Budget for 2019-2020

3. To: City Council

I am submitting to you the proposed budget for the City of Lackawanna. Over the last eight years, my administration has had the dubious honor of budgeting for high priced equipment that has been neglected for decades. New plow trucks, fire trucks, police vehicles, and other necessary equipment have been purchased with the expectancy that future administrative budgets should not have such high end expenditures. This should be the last year of high priced equipment purchases for many years. We have had the privilege of being able to purchase these expenditures outright and not having to creating new debt.

This year I am budgeting for a newly proposed dog park to be located in the East Milnor playground. Currently that playground is hardly utilized and has vast amounts of land for a large dog park. This could be a recurring budget line item should the next mayor and/or council decide to continue to invest in this new park. Also, I am proposing a line item to invest \$20,000 into the baseball facility on Van Wyck to upgrade

the facilities and provide safe and fun conditions for our children. The Lackawanna soccer field will also have city funds allocated for proper maintenance also at a cost of \$20,000.

I am proposing a purchase of a new garbage truck to replace one that has long outlived its life expectancy and is now considered unrepairable. It is also being proposed in this budget that we enter into a lease agreement to rotate our pay-loaders every three years. It was originally budgeted last year; however, we transferred those funds to purchase a two year dual-axel plow truck which was a tremendous opportunity for our snow-plowing needs.

I am submitting a request to fund for a fire pumper truck at a total value of \$557,644. The city will be budgeting \$282,644 while the remainder \$275,000 will be borrowed through a low-interest loan with New York State. Police vehicles have increased in cost and we are looking to continue to keep our fleet new and up to date by purchasing two vehicles for a value of \$100,000.

One new position of police officer is placed in the budget, as some retirements have happened and up to four police officers are considering retirement.

Health insurance costs have been identified to increase approximately 15% more than last year.

The garbage fund is now self sustaining unless adjusted by the council. Despite a large increase in tipping fees and now, recycle fees, the garbage fee will increase only \$3.00 per unit. \$100,000 is itemized for union negotiations.

I have increased the line item for fees on bond issue and note expenditure, as well as engineering fees; both are preparation for future city hall planning with the move, retrofitting, and the eventual demolition of the orange annex.

This budget is below the tax cap and is further away from the constitutional tax limit than the previous budget, to be at 92.7%.

The city's serial bond anticipation notes have been paid off. \$195,000 of debt service has been eliminated.

I am submitting five different options for a potential homestead/non-homestead tax shift: 0%, 10%, 20%, 25%, and 30% for your honorable body to decide.

MAYOR GEOFFREY M. SZYMANSKI

Moved by lafallo seconded by Surdyke to receive and file, TABLE ordinance

Yeas: Ingram, Schultz, Surdyke, lafallo

Carried 4-0

Communications from Department/Division Heads:

Logics LLC Agreement

4. To: City Council

Please review the attached agreement with Logics LLC for the new accounting software and approve for the Mayor to Sign.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

(Complete agreement on file with City Clerk)

CAROLYN A. NICOMETO-CITY COMPROLLER

Moved by lafallo seconded by Ingram to approve request

Ingram, Schultz, Surdyke, lafallo

Carried 4-0

Erie County Worksite Program

5. To: City Council

I request that the Council approves the participation of the Department of Public Works in Erie County's TANF SYEP Worksite Program. Through this program, the Erie County Department of Social Services could assign the city a number of youths to assist in painting curbs this summer.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

ANTHONY DESANTIS-COMMISSIONER of PUBLIC WORKS

Moved by Iafallo seconded by Schultz to approve request
Yeas: Ingram, Schultz, Surdyke, Iafallo

Carried 4-0

Fire Department-Sale of Vehicles and Equipment

6. To: City Council

I am requesting permission to sell several old Fire Department vehicles and equipment.

The vehicles to be sold are:

(1) 1989 Seagrave Ladder Truck

This truck was recently replaced with the Ladder Truck that was purchased from the Village of East Aurora. The 1989 Seagrave can no longer be used for firefighting purposes because it cannot pass ladder and pump certification tests.

(2) 1984 Young Pumpers

These trucks are not capable of being used as fire fighting vehicles because of mechanical issues.

The equipment to be sold is:

Supply hose that is more than 20 years old

Firefighting hose that is more than 20 years old

SCBA's and bottles that are more than 15 years old

Ladders that are more than 25 years old

These vehicles and equipment no longer have any use to the Fire Department due to their age and condition. If the items listed do not sell, I am asking permission to destroy any unsold items.

I am also asking for the funds received from the sale of listed items to be placed into the Fire Department Budget under line 3410.0443 to allow for maintenance and tire replacement of current in service apparatus.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

JAMES FINO-FIRE CHIEF

Moved by Iafallo seconded by Surdyke to approve request

Yeas: Ingram, Schultz, Surdyke, Iafallo

Carried 4-0

Communications from Citizens:

Lackawanna School Garter Party

7. To: City Council

I, Johnnie Pearl Dalton resides at 39 Glenwood, will be hosting the Garter Party for the Class of 2019, on June 7, 2019, from 3:30 till 5:30 PM.

I am requesting to have this street blocked on Steelawanna & Wilkesbarre to control the traffic of Glenwood and for the safety of the visitors.

Thank you in advance.

J.P. DALTON

Moved by Iafallo seconded by Ingram to approve request and refer to Public Safety and DPW Commissioner

Yeas: Ingram, Schultz, Surdyke, Iafallo

Carried 4-0

Business Registration:

Shareefa Albanna- 167 Lehigh St.-dba Allstate A&E Agency at 1283 Abbott Road

Moved by lafallo seconded by Schultz to approve business registration
Yeas: Ingram, Schultz, Surdyke, Ingram

Carried 4-0

Adjournment:

Moved by lafallo seconded by Schultz meeting adjourned
Yeas: Ingram, Schultz, Surdyke, lafallo

Carried 4-0

Annette lafallo-Council President

Jeffrey P. DePasquale- City Clerk